

**ALERTA DE ARTICULOS
RECIENTES EN ECONOMIA Y
COMERCIO - SITIOS EN INTERNET
02/03**

Julio 14, 2003

Estimado(a) señor(a):

Tenemos el agrado de presentarle una bibliografía en Economía y Comercio como parte de nuestro Servicio de Alerta, que esperamos sea de su interés.

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

Comercio

1. **FIGHTING BACK: THE GROWTH OF ALTERNATIVE TRADE.** Mark S. Leclair. "Development"- March 2003.

Mr. LeClair looks at the growing influence of fair trade, the marketing and sale of products at greater than free trade prices, on international trade. He argues that fair trade represents a unique response to the perceived inequities of unrestricted free trade and through a survey conducted with fair trade organizations shows how it is operating at the moment to balance inequalities, though he warns there is a precarious future for the artisans relying on such a system.

2. **MANAGING OIL WEALTH.** Benn Eifert; Alan Belb; Nils Borje Tallroth. "Finance and Development" – March 2003.

The authors survey the political systems of oil-exporting countries, and explore their impact on those countries' economies. They write that some oil-exporting countries have done a poor job of managing their oil economy, noting that the political systems of these countries are often to blame. While governments and societies may vary considerably, they note that there are key characteristics common to successful oil-exporting economies, including long-term planning horizons, transparency, ability to save while the market is up, and consensus building between public and private interests. On the other hand, countries that poorly manage their oil resources do not plan for the long term, cater to narrow interests and are plagued with corruption.

Economía de los países

3. **THE TRUTH ABOUT TAXES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.** Interview with Josel Slemrod. "Challenge" – January-February 2003

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Judging by the political scene in Washington, one would think that the low taxes were the main source of economic growth in the United States and around the world. Even most Democrats dare to demand that President Bush's tax cuts be rescinded, says the interviewer. But this leading tax expert, a political centrist argues that there is no compelling evidence that high taxes impede economic growth. Mr. Joel Slemrod is Paul W. McCracken Collegiate Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy and Director of the Office of Tax Policy Research at the University of Michigan.

4. OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION AND PERFORMANCE IN UKRAINE'S PRIVATIZED ENTERPRISES. Alexander Pivovarsky. "IMF Staff Papers" – Vol. 50 No. 1, 2003.

This article investigates empirically the relationship between ownership concentration and performance in 376 partially and fully privatized Ukrainian enterprises. It finds that ownership concentration is positively associated with enterprise performance in Ukraine. The article also finds that concentration of ownership by foreign companies and banks is associated with better performance than ownership concentrated by the domestic owners. Ownership by Ukrainian investment funds and holding companies does not have a positive effect on performance. The article documents that, in contrast to predictions by many observers of early transition, privatization methods determined the long-term ownership structure of privatized firms.

5. CRECIMIENTO ECONOMICO Y PROSPERIDAD EN EL MUNDO EN DESARROLLO CON LIBERTAD ECONOMICA. Brett D. Schaefer, Becario Jay Kingham en Asuntos Regulatorios Internacionales. The Heritage Foundation. Obtenido de Internet: <http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0303/ijes/schaefer.htm>

Los 50 años transcurrido con la asistencia bilateral y multilateral para el desarrollo sugieren que el aumento de la ayuda, sin reformas económicas, sociales y políticas fundamentales en los países pobres será ineficaz y posiblemente contraproducente, dice el economista Brett D. Schaefer. Agrega que los mercados abiertos, el apoyo

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a la actividad empresarial y la adherencia al imperio del derecho se cuentan entre las reformas decisivas para políticas que pueden brindar el camino más confiable para incrementar el crecimiento económico y la prosperidad en esos países.

6. THE IMF STRIKES BACK. Kenneth Rogoff. "Foreign Policy" – January-February 2003.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been too harshly criticized by detractors and can play a key role in promoting global economic growth and financial stability, claims the author, IMF research director. Rogoff says that the Fund's tight macroeconomic policies have helped countries become less austere, rather than more, and blaming the IMF for the realities that every country must face with their budgets "is like blaming the Fund for gravity." The IMF provides a key forum for exchanges of ideas and best practices and if it did not exist, as some have argued, poor countries would need something similar, he says. With more than 180 member nations, Rogoff adds that the IMF can provide a global perspective in dealing with problems such as helping the world transition to a more stable, coherent system of exchange rates from the current "patchwork" system. The "greatest challenge" facing industrialized nations this century, he says, is dealing with aging populations—a problem that could be solved if rich countries could find effective ways to invest in much younger developing countries.

7. THE FUTURE OF STRUCTURAL REFORM. Eduardo Lora and Ugo Panizza. "Journal of Democracy" – April 2003.

As Latin America suffers from its worst economic crisis in decades, the reform of political institutions remains the region's best hope, say the authors. To bring illumination and not just friction to the subject, we should ask first about the actual contours of public opinion, and then move on to describe the current state of the reforms and the findings of empirical research into their real-world economic and social effects in Latin America, that done, we can raise the question of what should come next, continue the authors.

Empresas

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8. IS ETHICS GOOD BUSINESS? Interview with Lynn Sharp Paine, Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. “Challenge” – March-April 2003.

This business ethics specialist insists that ethics has to be integral to business. She says the scandals of the 1990s were consequence of a narrow management philosophy. But ethics can pay off in more creative, more efficient, and more flexible firms. How do you get such programs implemented? She has some answers.

9. DON'T TRUST YOUR GUT. Eric Bonabeau. “Harvard Business Review” – May 2003.

Intuition plays an important role in decision-making, but it can be dangerously unreliable in complicated situations. A new set of analytical tools can help you leverage your instinct without being sabotaged by its weaknesses, says the author.

10. PREDICTABLE SURPRISES: THE DISASTERS YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN COMING. Michael D. Watkins and Max H. Bazerman. “Harvard Business Review” – March 2003

Are you ignoring business problems that could turn into disasters? Ask the authors. If you are like most executives, the answer is probably yes. Deep-seated psychological, organization, and political flows leave most companies vulnerable to being blindsided by events. But there are practical steps you can take to protect your business-and yourself, say the authors.

Estados Unidos de América

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11. THE DIVING DOLLAR; THE CURRENCY HEADLINES ARE NOT JUST BIG NEWS, THEY ARE SIGNS OF THE SHIFTING BALANCE IN GLOBAL ECONOMIC POWER. Karen Lowry Miller. “Newsweek” - May 19, 2003.

The strong-dollar era is ending in a clash of the two most powerful legacies of the 1990s: the bubble hangover and the spread of free-market ideals. Most analysts expect a gradual but not painless collision in which markets allow a sharp correction in the dollar, which makes U.S. exports more competitive, reviving the U.S. economy and the world economy with it. Merrill Lynch currency strategist Alex Patelis points out that the U.S. economy grew from 1985 to 1987, during a period when the dollar was falling, says the author. Eventually, U.S. growth picked up the value of the dollar, too. “People will always buy dollars at a price,” says Patelis. “Left to its own devices, the market will clear the problem anyway.”

12. COMMUNICATION INDUSTRY: THE FCC AND COMPETITION. Ivan Sidenberg. “Vital Speeches of the Day”- May 15, 2003.

Just as the auto industry came to a crossroads in the 1980s, communications is at a similar turning point, brought on by a competitive force that is challenging everything about our traditional business. If we are to restore growth to this critically important global industry, the industry itself must lead the transformation, working in tandem with labor and government, says Mr. Sidenberg. The FCC’s recently concluded review of the rules governing telecom represents a mixed bag in terms of communication policy – removing some of the barriers to investment in new technology while maintaining an elaborate and uneconomic system of price controls and unbundling rules for the existing network. The FCC (Federal Communications Commission) review reveals a fundamental lack of direction on the part of government as to how to regulate telecom – a confusion with profound consequences for the economy, explains the author.

13. NO STEPPING BACK: AMERICA’S INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AGENDA FOR 2003-05. Robert E. Litan and Lael Brainard. “Brookings Review” – Winter 2003.

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The September 11 attacks created a defining event for America's international economic agenda, Brainard and Litan say. Now more than ever, it is important to demonstrate that combating poverty and promoting international trade are in the self-interest of both the U.S. and its foreign partners. The authors say the end of the Cold War, along with growing disillusionment about the effectiveness of aid, resulted in a significant decrease in U.S. spending to fight world poverty during the 1990s. They say now the pendulum may be swinging the other way, as activists have learned to mobilize public support and the campaign against terrorism has provided a compelling incentive to help strengthen foreign economics. The authors discuss some key economic development issues—an emerging consensus on development goals and how to design effective aid programs; recognition of the need to strengthen the global trading system by removing trade barriers and other forms of protectionism; and increasing integration of international financial markets. Understanding the need for advanced countries to make economic adjustments in response to market downturns, and of the challenges to accounting standards precipitated by the Enron bankruptcy scandal and other corporate accounting failures, are also issues relevant to development goals. The authors state the U.S. must remain engaged in world trade, global development and the international financial system.

Globalización de la Economía

14. REVOLUTION IN BUSINESS AND FINANCE. Hazel Henderson. “Development” – March 2003.

The author argues that the world must address how to finance development through innovative funding sources, as well as how to fund global public goods as a matter of priority in the new global order.

15. MONEY, THE ‘ICT REVOLUTION’ AND ECONOMICS. Claudio Sardoní. “Development” – March 2003.

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The author looks at some aspects of the ongoing debate around the so-called ‘ICT revolution’ (information and communication technology) and its effects on the economic system. He argues that economists have devoted much attention to ICT's effects on the functioning of the monetary and financial system in particular. It is, in fact, the monetary and financial sectors of advanced economies that have adopted ICT innovations more widely and faster than other sectors.

16. LA CRM PROMUEVE LAS POLITICAS ECONOMICAS ACERTADAS. E. Anthony Wayne, Secretario de Estado Adjunto para Asuntos Económicos y Empresariales. Obtenido de Internet: <http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0303/ijes/wayne.htm>

El desarrollo no es algo que simplemente sucede, su logro requiere el crecimiento económico que ocurre cuando los pueblos y los gobiernos responden a incentivos económicos, dice el autor. El invertir dinero en los problemas sin una base de políticas gubernamentales sólidas no tendrá un efecto duradero, explica el señor Wayne. Por esa razón la Cuenta del Reto del Milenio (CRM) tiene por objetivo promover las políticas económicas acertadas, tales como una administración macroeconómica bien concebida, un marco normativo eficaz, un régimen de comercio abierto y un entorno favorable a la inversión comercial.

17. AUTHORITARIAN RESILIENCE. Andrew J. Nathan. “Journal of Democracy” – January 2003.

Successful institutionalization will help the regime survive the pressures of advanced modernization and integration with the global economy, explains the author.

18. THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. Lael Brainard. “Brookings Review” – Spring 2003.

The proposed Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), which would add \$5 billion

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annually to U.S. official development assistance to promote growth in reform-oriented developing countries, holds tremendous promise, says Brainard. But the pitfalls are many, he adds. He cautions that adding one more foreign assistance entity can increase the confusion around foreign aid programs; therefore, the roles of the MCA and its governing body, the MCC, must be clearly defined with the context of other foreign assistance programs. The current emphasis on national security in U.S. policies could subvert MCA's goal to separate development goals from foreign policy objectives—a problem that has historically plagued development programs, he says. Additionally, the unpredictability of congressional support for specific appropriations, along with its penchant for imposing funding restrictions through earmarks, can undermine the long-term success of multiple-year undertakings such as the MCA, says the author.

Varios

19. FRENAR LA CORRUPCION Y LIBERAR EL DESARROLLO ECONOMICO. Nancy Zucker Boswell y Peter Richrdson. Obtenido de Internet: <http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0303/ijes/sucker.htm>

La corrupción debilita la economía de un país al perjudicar la recaudación de impuestos, desperdiciar recursos, desalentar la inversión privada y socavar la aplicación de regulaciones, afirman los autores. Dicen también que perjudica desproporcionadamente a los pobres porque desvía la planificación económica en contra de las inversiones en servicios sociales y porque los pobres son los que menos recursos tienen para sobornar. Agregan que los países deberían poner en práctica un sistema de derecho penal en el que haya fiscales independientes que presenten los casos y un sistema judicial competente e independiente que imponga las sentencias.

20. POPULATION LINKED TO NATION'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Anonymous. "The Nation's Health" – February 2003.

Bolstering reproductive health services is a key factor in reducing poverty in developing nations, according to a December report from the United Nations

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Population Fund, mentions the article. The report links population to a nation's economic growth, citing figures showing that countries with slow population growth also have faster economic growth, explains it.

21. COFFEE PRODUCTION IN A TIME OF CRISIS: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONNECTIONS. Robert Rice. "SAIS Review" – winter/Spring 2003.

This article discusses coffee's history as a global commodity, and its environmental and social implications. Occupying some 10 million hectares globally, millions of small producers and their families depend upon coffee as their major source of income. Their livelihood is threatened today by a price crisis brought on by overproduction. But, innovative market initiatives linked to social equity and ecological or conservation concerns have the potential to lift producers out of the devastation caused by low prices. Government and private sector actors also have a role to play in solving the crisis, says the author.

Páginas web en temas afines:

The Americas: Regional Trade Issues

<http://usinfo.state.gov/regional/ar/trade>

The Language of Trade

<http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/trade/homepage/htm>

Department of State – Economic Policy and Trade Practices Reports

<http://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/rpts/eptp>

US International Trade Commission – Information Center

<http://www.usitc.gov/webinfo.htm>

Free Trade Area of the America's (FTAA)

<http://www.ustr.gov/regions/whemisphere/ftaa.shtml>

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Bureau of Economic Analysis

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/>

Foreign Trade Statistics (US Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/index.html>

**Statistical Resources on the Web: Foreign and International Economics
(University of Michigan)**

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/stecfor.html>

Statistical Resources on the Web: Foreign Trade (University of Michigan)

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/stectrad.html>

Economic Statistics Briefing Room (White House)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/esbr.html>

Foreign Trade Information System (OAS)

<http://www.sice.oas.org>

International Monetary Fund (IMF) Site Search

<http://www.imf.org/external/ubind.htm>

2003 Index of Economic Freedom (Heritage Foundation)

<http://www.heritage.org/research/features/index>

Resources for Economists on the Internet (American Economic Association)

<http://rfe.org>

Deardorff's Glossary of International Economics

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~alandear/glossary/>

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

<http://www.ustr.gov>

Business Search Engine

<http://www.business.com>

Overseas Private Investment Corporation

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<http://www.opic.gov>

Small Business Administration

<http://www.sba.gov/oit>

Customs and Border Protection

<http://www.customs.gov>

U.S. Trade and Development Agency

<http://www.tda.gov>

World Bank Group

<http://www.worldbank.org>

Consumers for World Trade

<http://www.cwt.org>

Economic Strategy Institute

<http://www.econstrat.org>

Institute for International Economics

<http://www.iie.com>

Citizens for Sound Economy

<http://www.cse.org>

Trade Policy Advisory Committee System

<http://www.ustr.gov/outreach/advise.shtml>

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